

May 14, 2009

Thank you, Madame Speaker.

I rise today to call attention to the struggles of our seniors and our veterans.

I know these are tough economic times, and that many of New Jersey's families, seniors and veterans are having a tough time making ends meet.

That's why I am pleased to know that seniors and disabled veterans are receiving a \$250 economic recovery payment this month.

We have to make sure our seniors and our veterans receive the benefits and relief they need.

When I reviewed the first draft of the economic recovery package, I realized that retired seniors and disabled veterans were excluded from receiving a tax rebate.

I worked quickly to fix this oversight, introducing the Safeguarding America's Seniors and Veterans Act, which was included in the final recovery package that was signed into law.

Fortunately, New Jersey seniors and veterans will now receive \$250 in tax relief this month.

During these tough economic times, we must ensure that we take care of our seniors and our veterans.

These \$250 checks have already started arriving in Burlington and Ocean Counties and Cherry Hill and are making a difference in the lives of our seniors and our veterans.

I'm proud to have been a part of the process.

I yield back the balance of my time.